

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A portable information terminal which comprises:

a camera unit;

a shutter button for said camera;

a viewfinder of which optical axis is parallel to that of lens of said camera; and

a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or image taken in by said camera,

wherein said lens and said viewfinder on the front side of said portable information terminal are directed to a subject and said display unit is placed on the rear side.

2. (Withdrawn) The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein:

said viewfinder is retractable; and

said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.

3. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal, ~~which comprises~~ comprising:

a camera ~~unit~~;

a shutter button for said camera;

a viewfinder ~~of which~~ having an optical axis ~~is~~ parallel to that of a lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

a pair of flat cases which ~~pivots~~ pivot through a hinge;

~~wherein~~:

wherein at least one of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or an image taken in by said camera; ~~and~~

wherein said hinge is ~~equipped with~~ attached to said housing; and

wherein said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at ~~the~~ another upper corner of the information terminal.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 3, wherein said viewfinder is retractable into said housing.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A portable information terminal, ~~which comprises~~ comprising:

a camera ~~unit~~;

a shutter button for said camera; and

a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal,

wherein said terminal operation button acts as said shutter button; ~~and~~

wherein said portable information terminal further comprises:

a viewfinder ~~of which~~ having an optical axis ~~is~~ parallel to that of a lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

a pair of flat cases which ~~pivots~~ pivot through a hinge;

~~wherein:~~

wherein at least one of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or an image taken in by said camera; and

wherein said hinge is ~~equipped with~~ attached to said housing.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 6, wherein said terminal operation button is a scroll button related to said display unit.

9. (Currently Amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 8, wherein said scroll button has a vertically pressing function, and the function is caused to correspond to the function of the operation button for acting as said shutter button.

10. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 6, wherein said terminal operation button functions as said shutter button, by function mode switching.

11. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 10, wherein said terminal operation button and said shutter button are positioned on different surfaces of said portable information terminal.

12. (Currently Amended) The portable information terminal according to claim 6, ~~wherein:~~
wherein said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with said display unit; and
wherein said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said surface having a said display unit.

13. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal, ~~which comprises~~ comprising:
a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal;
a camera ~~unit~~;
a shutter button for said camera ~~unit~~;
a housing for said camera; and
a pair of flat cases which ~~pivots~~ pivot through a hinge;
wherein:
each of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or an image taken in by said camera;
said hinge is ~~equipped with~~ attached to said housing;
an optical axis of a lens of said camera is perpendicular to an axis of said hinge;
~~and said display units of said cases units face~~ face outside in a folded state; ~~and~~
~~wherein:~~
said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with one of said display units; and

said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said surface on which said terminal operation button is positioned.

14. (Withdrawn) A portable information terminal which comprises:

- a camera unit;
- a housing for said camera; and
- a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,
wherein:

- each of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or image taken in by said camera;

- said hinge is equipped with said housing;

- an optical axis of lens of said camera is perpendicular to an axis of said hinge;

and

- said hinge has a structure in which said cases are pivoted by two shafts parallel to the axis of said housing; and

- said display units face inside said information terminal body in a folded state and they face outside said information terminal in an unfolded state.

15. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 13, wherein one of said display units faces a subject and displays a mirror image of an image as taken in by said camera.

16. (Withdrawn) The portable information terminal according to claim 14, wherein one of said display units faces a subject and displays a mirror image of an image as taken in by said camera.

17. (Original) A portable information terminal according to claim 13, wherein said display units are positioned such that the cases are opposite to each other when said display units are folded, while they face the same side when said display units are unfolded at 180°.

18. (Withdrawn) A portable information terminal according to claim 14, wherein said display units are positioned such that the cases are opposite to each other when said display units are folded, while they face the same side when said display units are unfolded at 180°.

19. (Withdrawn) The portable information terminal according to claim 14, wherein said housing is rotated by 360° so as to locate said display units inside or outside said information terminal in a folded state, while said housing is rotated so as to locate said display units on the same side in an unfolded state.

20. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal, ~~which comprises~~ comprising:
a camera; ~~unit having~~
a viewfinder ~~and~~;
a shutter button; and
~~two~~ first and second display units, ~~one both of which is~~ are used for viewing an image taken in by said camera; ~~wherein~~:
wherein the first display unit is opposite to said second display unit, and the first display unit is used to display said image and is visually seen from a subject side while said second display unit is used to display said image to a person taking a picture; and
wherein said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner of the information terminal.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:
a camera;
a portable information terminal;
a lens for said camera;
a shutter button for said camera;
a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera; and
a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

said lens and said viewfinder secured to said hinge and disposed along an axis of said hinge,

wherein each of said pair of flat cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from at least one of (1) transmission channels and (2) images captured by said camera.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein, when said pair of flat cases are in a closed position, said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said viewfinder is retractable into a housing of said hinge.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

- a camera;

- a portable information terminal;

- a lens for said camera;

- a shutter button for said camera; and

- a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal, wherein:

- said terminal operation button comprises a two-step pressing type button; and

- said terminal operation button acts as an alternate shutter button when said portable information terminal is operated in a photographing mode.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:

- a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera;

- a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

- a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

- wherein:

at least one of said pair of flat cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from at least one of (1) transmission channels and (2) images captured by said camera; and

said hinge is attached to said housing.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said terminal operation button comprises a scroll button for scrolling a display unit for said portable information terminal.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein:

said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with said display unit; and

said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said surface equipped with said display unit.

29. – 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) An apparatus which comprises:

a camera;

a portable information terminal;

a shutter button for said camera;

a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to that an optical axis of said lens of said camera;

a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and

a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

at least one of said cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from transmission channels or images captured by said camera; and

when said pair of flat cases are in a closed position, said viewfinder is positioned at an upper corner of the information terminal, while said shutter button is positioned at the another upper corner.

35. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

- a camera;
- a portable information terminal;
- a lens for said camera;
- a shutter button for said camera;
- a terminal operation button for operating said portable information terminal,
- a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera;
- a housing for said camera and said viewfinder; and
- a pair of flat cases which pivots through a hinge,

wherein:

- said terminal operation button functions as an additional shutter button;
- at least one of said pair of flat cases is equipped with a display unit for displaying information from at least one of (1) transmission channels and (2) images captured by said camera; and
- said hinge is attached to said housing.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 35,

wherein:

- said terminal operation button is positioned on a surface equipped with said display unit; and
- said shutter button is positioned on another surface perpendicular to said surface equipped with said display unit.

37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the display unit in each of said pair of flat cases displays information from both transmission channels and images captured by said camera.

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein:

a first step of pressing said terminal operation button sets said camera in a photographing preparation stage: and

a second step of further pressing said terminal operation button releases a shutter of said camera.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said scroll button has a screen scroll operation in which said scroll button is pressed in a tilting movement.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a viewfinder for said camera having an optical axis oriented parallel to an optical axis of said lens of said camera, said lens and said viewfinder secured to said hinge and disposed along an axis of said hinge.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said pair of flat cases are in a closed position in which the display unit of said first flat case and the display unit of said second flat case face opposite one another, with neither display unit exposed for viewing.

42. (Cancelled)